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Proof that the best things in life are free

NIS and Lee Academy treat Angeles to free concert



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# NIS and Lee Academy treat Angeles to free concert

by Dan Behmer and Benjamin Caaway

**The Music Department** and Chamber Ensemble at Noblesse International School teamed up with musicians from the Lee Yong Hyun Music Academy from Daejeon, South Korea to perform a free concert at SM Clark last January 8th.

NIS music teacher and ensemble director Mr. Benjamin Caaway collaborated with Mrs. Yong Hyun Lee, Music Director of the Lee Academy and mother to NIS 11th grade student Shiwoo (Jeffrey) Lee. Together they practiced long hours with young kids and young adults “who were as talented as their mentors,” Mr. Caaway said. “The NIS and Lee Academy ensemble

members only had two or three nights to practice together before the concert, so to make up for limited time, the instructors and students practiced from 7 PM until 1 AM, even 2 AM, and the hard work really paid off.”

The concert began with the all the ensemble members playing the Philippine national anthem and the Korean national anthem. NIS Headmaster Dr. Harvey Chiles gave the welcoming remarks and introduced some key people involved in the concert, including NIS Chairman Ik Soon Lee.

The NIS Chamber Ensemble graced the first part of the programme by

playing three numbers: *Wachet Auf* (Sleepers Awake) by Johann Sebastian Bach, *Bolero* by Maurice Ravel, and *La Bamba*, a traditional but popular Mexican folk song. NIS 10th grade student Heesu Yun accompanied the violinists and wind players by playing the piano, and NIS music teacher Mr. Jethro Torres played a smaller-sized trumpet during *Bolero* and the drums during *La Bamba*. Mr. Caaway recalled a fun moment in *La Bamba*: while vigorously conducting somewhere in the middle part of the song, his baton struck his music stand, sending the baton flying and spinning towards the floor. He still completed the performance despite that unexpected moment. “I was



surprised at what had happened, but the show must go on,” he chuckled.

After NIS, the students of the Lee Academy performed 11 numbers. The Academy performances ranged from large groups of Academy members performing together, to three to five accomplished soloists working together to perform violinistic pieces like Fritz Kreisler’s Praeludium and Allegro and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s Concerto No. 3 in G major. In addition, NIS Food Service Manager Ms. Cris Reneth “Ren” Pamintuan



sang Josh Groban’s You Raise Me Up (written by Rolf Lovland and Brendan Graham), with Shiwoo and the Academy performers accompanying.

both the NIS and Lee Academy ensembles. “I don’t think (Shiwoo) stepped off-stage, except when the little kids were playing, and that was the only break he had,” Mr. Caaway said.

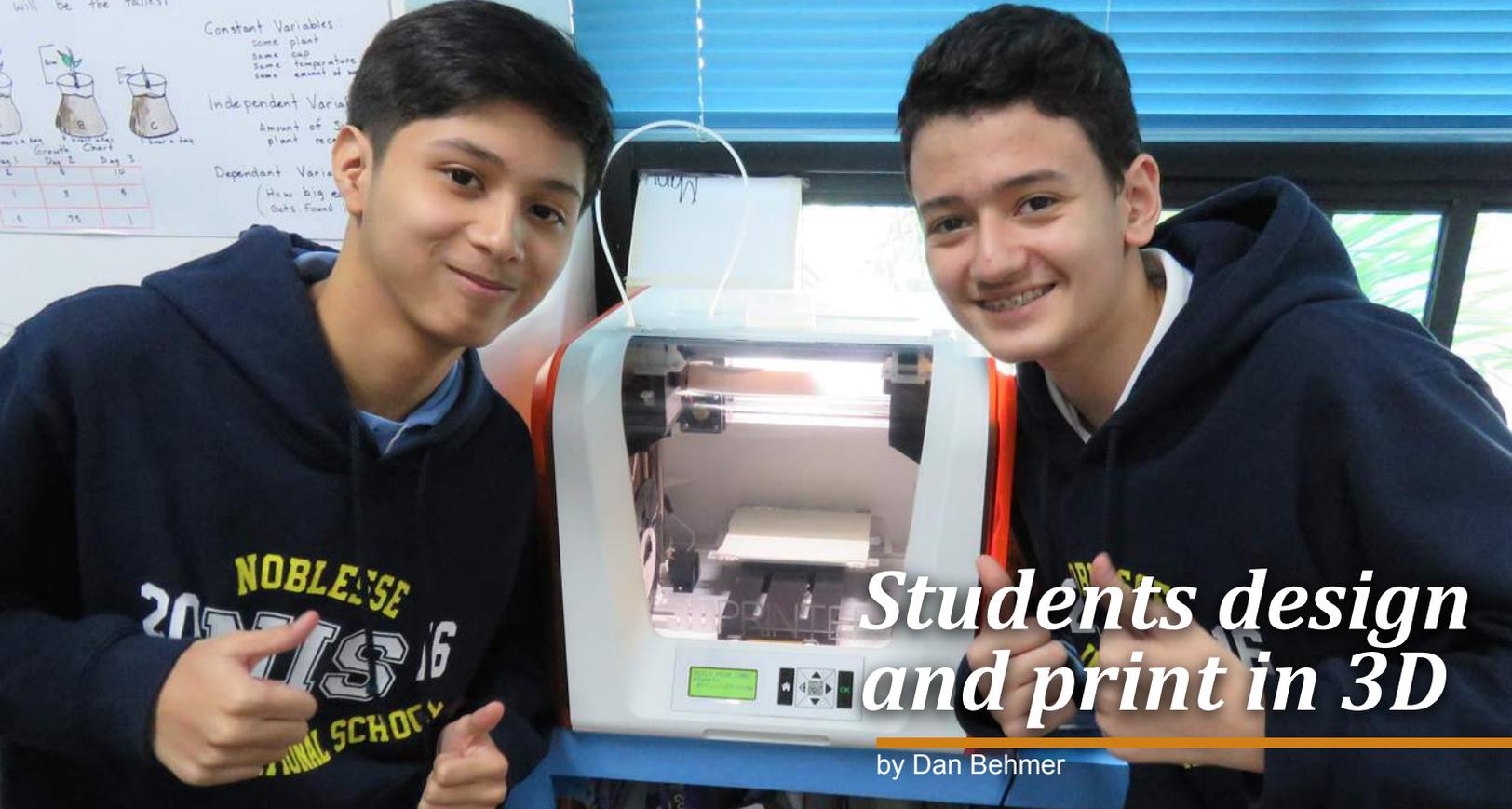


The third and last part of the concert consisted of eight numbers, with NIS and Academy students performing together some complex classical repertoire like Johannes Brahms’ Hungarian Dance No. 1, as well as other popular pieces. One piece they performed was the well-loved Salut d’Amour by Edward Elgar, where Mr. Caaway and Shiwoo Lee performed solo on their violins. Ms. Ren Pamintuan also sang Mariah Carey’s All I Want for Christmas is You, again accompanied by the ensemble. The ensemble also played Klaus Badelt’s He’s a Pirate, from the soundtrack album of the hit Disney movie franchise Pirates of the Caribbean.

The immediate audience, as well many onlookers at SM Clark, had a sampling of the musicianship and skills of the NIS and Lee Academy students. Many of the NIS faculty also attended the concert. “Overall, it was a wonderful performance,” stated Mr. Caaway. “The kids gave it their all, and it went more than they had expected.”

The NIS Chamber Ensemble members are: Shiwoo (Jeffrey) Lee, Jungeun (Judy) Yoon, Junsu (David) Yun, Taemin Kim, Chanho (Martin) Woo, Inji Kim, Changyeol Im, Yebin (Tina) Kwon, Naeyun (Ally) Hong, Estefanie Lansang, Reichelle Daraoay, Trisha Sicat, Franchesca Killick, Sungwoo Kim, Yunhee (Sara) Jee, and Heesu Yun.





# Students design and print in 3D

by Dan Behmer

**Creativity, resourcefulness, and persistence** can accomplish a lot, and students in Mr. Garrick Sleight's Tech Club have proved this over the past few months with a unique way to raise funds for the purchase of a 3D printer. They accomplished their fundraising goals and purchased the printer last December.

"We're one of the only schools in the area that has a 3D printer," eighth grade student Bryan Hammer said. Tech Club students raised funds for the printer by reaching out to possible donors at NIS and in the local community and offering to print gifts for donors as tokens of appreciation. Donors received promissory notes, which served as IOUs until their gifts could be printed.



Some of these printable gifts included key chains, card holders,

cell phone cases, and mini-model motorcycles. The NIS Student Council donated 5,000 pesos. In addition, community members also donated from 1,000 to 5,000 pesos each. In total, the Tech Club members secured more than 20,000 pesos in donations.

Having a 3D printer allows students to take their 3D designing skills to a new level. Computerized 3D design has replaced drafting to a great extent - with applications in a myriad of fields, such as engineering, architecture, and construction. Advanced 3D design even has applications in the medical field.

The printer uses a spool of nylon thread to create objects. The printer heats the thread into a malleable building material. Students use an online application called Tinkercad to design shapes to be printed. In addition, many printable designs are saved and accessible at a website called [www.thingiverse.com](http://www.thingiverse.com). These designs are read by the computer of the 3D printer - and reproduced. The printer that the Tech Club purchased is large enough to print hand-held objects.

Mr. Sleight and students got the idea to purchase a 3D printer at the NIS Science Fair during the last semester of the last school year. During the Fair, Dale Mathis, a parent of a former NIS student, offered to bring his personal 3D printer to show the students who participated in the science fair. When Mr. Mathis demonstrated the printer, the students became excited and inspired, said Mr. Sleight.

NIS teacher Mr. Ben Parsons thought of the idea to have a fundraiser to get funds to purchase the printer, and NIS eighth grade student Mark Bukovitz suggested printing gifts for donors.

Tech Club students are eager to demonstrate the capabilities of the 3D printer in the NIS Science Fair for 2016.



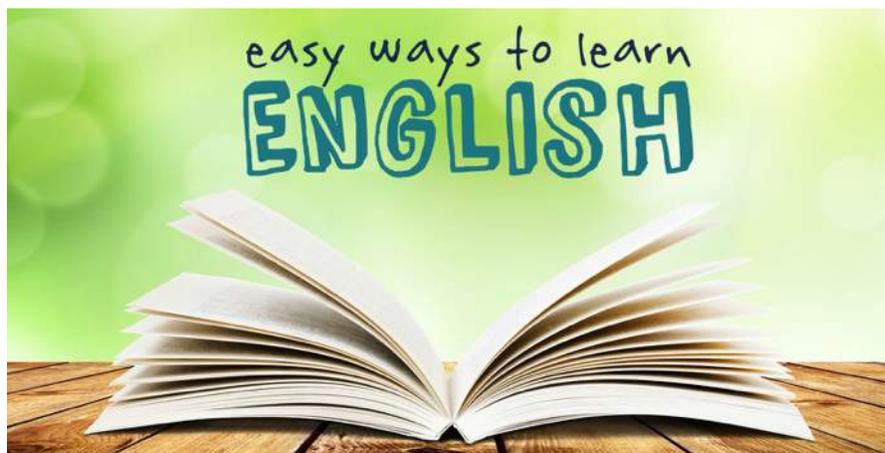
# Learning English with the BBC

by Dan Behmer

## BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

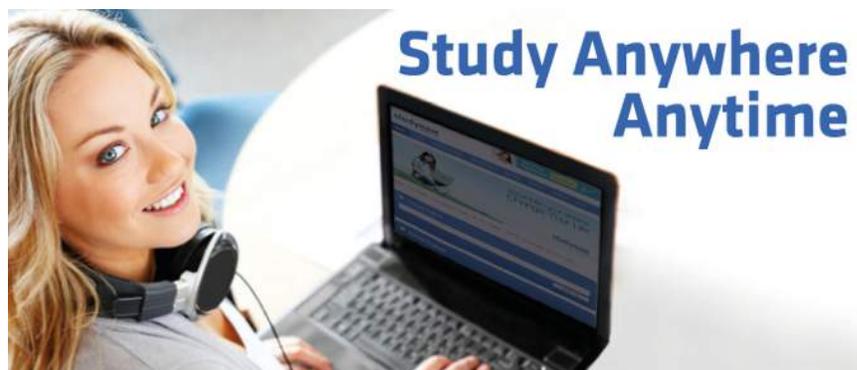
The **BBC Learning English website** at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish> is one of the most entertaining, user-friendly, and comprehensive free websites which middle/high school students of English as a second language - as well as adults - can independently use.

This website includes many videos of English skits and conversations, and these videos are accompanied by quizzes that can be self-administered. Vocabulary and idioms from the videos are also defined. Moreover, learning material is available for beginning, intermediate, and advanced learners. Video and audio lessons are generally geared toward improving listening and speaking skills, while lessons with written passages are generally geared toward boosting reading skills.



Lessons focus on a broad range of topics and contexts, including everyday encounters, English in the workplace, news and current events, health and exercise, and food and dining. In addition to skits and conversations, lessons can also focus on pronunciation or the direct teaching of grammar or expressions.

The website presents lessons in the context of series and episodes, and these lessons can be completed sequentially or individually. Among others, these series of lessons currently include *English My Way*, *The English We Speak*, *6-Minute English*, *Shakespeare Speaks*, and *The Sounds of English*.



# 100th day of school

by Janice Sypniewski, Anna Samson, David Young and Regina Muna



**Friday, January 29, 2016 was the 100th day of school.** Elementary celebrated this day by bringing in 100 items from home and filled in posters: "100 Ways to Make 100", "100 Foods I Like", "100 Compliments and Acts of Kindness", and "100 Things I Love About School".



**First grade students** had to search the room for 100 sight words they've learned. They also had to spell their names using 100 letters. In art class, they made gum ball machines with 100 colored circles. For writing they



made a bucket list of things they would like to do before they are 100 years old.



**Second grade** skip counted/grouped dominoes in multiples of 2, 4, 5, 10, 20, 25 and 50 to get to 100. They drew and played hopscotch from 1-100. The students wrote a book of 100 things they would like to have, stacked 100 paper cups as high as they could and measured/compared heights. They had a blast with the games incorporated into Math and Writing activities about 100 days.





hidden around the classroom. We did some quick math to figure out how many were left and then did a division problem to figure out how many we could share evenly. In addition, we had fun finding 100 ways to make 100 using 2 or more operations. Overall, it was a fun time for all.

### Third grade

Inside room 118, Mr. Young aloud 100th Day Worries, a picture book about a girl, Jessica, who is distressed about what she will bring to her first grade class to celebrate the momentous day. During the read aloud, our students kept a character / setting / summary organizer. After-which, one group wrote a paragraph about something that worries them and another group created an organizer of 100 words they know. What a blast we had today in third grade.



The fourth grade class wrote about 100 things they would love to have and 100 things they would not want. We also had a scavenger hunt to find 100 candies



# Exploreum Science Quiz Competition



On December 11th, Pyeong Yeol Im (Gr.6), Keon Hak Jeong (Gr. 5) and Max Heinen (Gr. 5) proudly represented Noblesse International School in the 1st Exploreum National Science Quiz Competition for the grade school division that was held at the Mall of Asia. They competed against 6 other schools from regions around the Philippines and did a great job answering questions that were taken from various science concepts. In the end, we had taken 3rd place during this round and the students left with a sense of accomplishment and anticipation for the next year's competition.



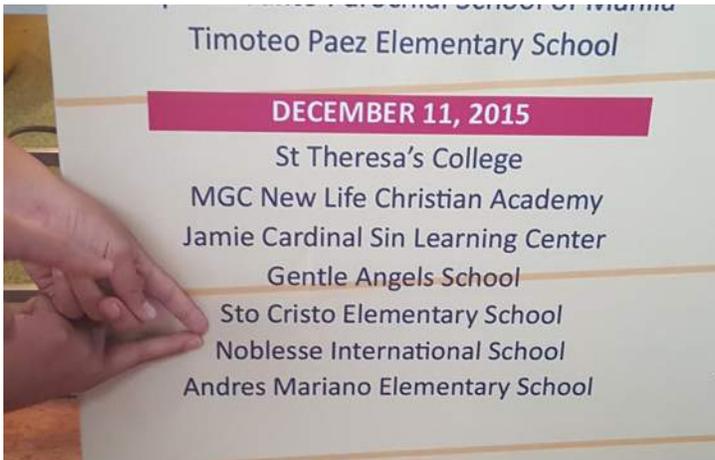
SCHOOL	EASY	AVERAGE	DIFFICULT	CLINCHER	Total
JAIME CARDINAL SIN LEARNING CENTER	5	8	12	0	25
ANDRES MARIANO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	5	6	6	0	17
STO. CRISTO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	4	4	6	0	14
ST.THERESA'S COLLEGE, Q.C	6	8	9	0	23
NOBLESSE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL	3	6	9	0	18
GENTLE ANGELS SCHOOL	3	2	3	0	8
MGC NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY	3	4	6	0	13





## Exploreum Science Quiz Competition

Our team joined qualifiers for the grand final, which will be on March 5 in Manila. Of seven teams we got the second place. Only the first place is allowed to join the grand finals. There will be around 15 schools joining the grand finals to win the award.



# *Violinist of the Month*

by Benjamin Caaway

## **DAVID OISTRAKH (1908-1974)**



**David Fyodorovich Oistrakh** (September 30, 1908 – October 24, 1974) was a Soviet violin virtuoso, and one of the most renowned violinists of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. He is considered to be among those who have their own unique recognizable sound, instrumental mastery, and musical personality. He premiered a lot of violin works that are recognized in the standard violin repertoire, like Aram Khachaturian's Violin Concerto and two concerti by Dmitri Shostakovich. He is considered to be preeminent among fellow great violinists Jascha Heifetz, Yehudi Menuhin, Nathan Milstein, Zino Francescatti, Jacques Thibaud

and many others. He was also mentor to several other violin virtuosos, including his brilliant student Gidon Kremer and even Oistrakh's son, Igor.

Oistrakh was born in 1908 in the city of Odessa in the Russian Empire (now modern-day Ukraine). He was of Jewish descent, his family among those who have been exiled from the land of Israel. During his lifetime, he has seen terrible periods, among them the Bolshevik Revolution, which was a key event instrumental to the Russian Revolution of 1917, and World War II. Despite these very dark times, his quest for artistic perfection remained intact,

despite the pressures and exploitation brought by the Soviet regime.

Still, this man is not being ignored.

The Russian public were a supportive people; they even dubbed Oistrakh as The People's Artist. They never abandoned their compatriot and his journey for musical and artistic excellence. Fellow virtuoso cellist Mstislav Rostropovich remembers that Oistrakh's recordings were being played over the radio, through speaker systems mounted everywhere in the busy streets of war-torn Russia. The people hear his



recordings everyday, and they always recognize his unique, distinct sound.

The public were not only supportive, but also some colleagues in the field as well. One such person would be Yehudi Menuhin, another great violinist. His friendship with Oistrakh can be considered as one that is deeply professional and human, not very common in a musical world filled with a lot of rivalries. One famous proof of

their friendship is their performances of the Bach Double Concerto, well-documented in videos that were still in Black and White during that time.

As a result of his hard work and achievements, Oistrakh was awarded several distinctions: the Stalin Prize in 1943, the title of People's Artist of the USSR in 1953, and the Lenin Prize in 1960. Oistrakh also won several competitions, some of which is the Soviet Union Competition in 1935, as well as Second Place at the Henryk Wieniawski Violin Competition in Warsaw, the First Prize snagged by violin prodigy Ginette Neveu, who was just 16 years old at the time.

Oistrakh also won several competitions, some of which is the Soviet Union Competition in

1935, as well as Second Place at the Henryk Wieniawski Violin Competition in Warsaw, the First Prize snagged by violin prodigy Ginette Neveu, who was just 16 years old at the time.

Oistrakh was a true artist; one that had endured years of tyrannic rule filled with aggression and destruction. His dedication, perserverance, and commitment to his art has earned him a place among the violin legends that the world has embraced.



**RECOMMENDED LISTENING:**

- Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto in D major, Op. 35. With the Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra and Gennadi Rozhdestvensky, conductor.
- Jean Sibelius: Violin Concerto in D major, Op. 47. With the USSR RTV Large Symphony Orchestra and Gennadi Rozhdestvensky, conductor.
- Aram Khachaturian: Violin

**SOURCES**

- Monsaingeon, Bruno. "David Oistrakh." Accessed January 8, 2016. <http://www.brunomonsaingeon.com/EN/PERFORMERS/OISTRAKH.html>.
- Wikipedia. "David Oistrakh." Last modified December 3, 2015. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David\\_Oistrakh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Oistrakh).



## Open Community Coffee Chats with Headmaster

Beginning this Thursday and lasting until the first week of May, the Headmaster will host a Coffee Forum from 10:00 am until 11:00 am.

These meetings are open to all of our parents, students, and faculty. The Headmaster will answer questions and concerns, outline upcoming events, and take suggestions for improving our school.

### Topics for this month include:

**Feb 11-** US College Admissions; Current situation

PSAT Results: What do the scores mean? After school on Feb 11th at 3:30 we will meet with all 8th, 9th and 10 graders and their parents to review their specific PSAT reports.

**Feb. 18th - NO meeting** due to International Fine Arts Week

**Feb 25- NO SCHOOL.** However, Mr. Yoo will schedule Korean students and Parents with the college advisor the Chairman has hired for three days.

March and April Schedule of topics will be posted later this month.

## A presentation from Dr. Wehner from the University of Applied Sciences in Germany

We are fortunate to be hosting Dr. Wehner from the University of Applied Sciences in Germany. He will come to NIS on Monday, February 22nd to give a presentation at 3:30pm about an almost full-scholarship English-only program his university offers to IB Diploma graduates.

This presentation is being organized by Mr. Herbert Vogt. Mr. Vogt is a Professor in German Language Education at the Lyceum of the Philippines University (and used to teach here at NIS several years ago).

## School Dress Code Policy

All students, parents and guardians are reminded that they are to be in uniform and following school dress code policy. Detention, Saturday School, suspensions will be administered.

## Great American College Tour ( MAY 2016)

**Mr. Bob** will be leading a group of students to the United States this summer. Students will stay in the homes of Rotary International Members in Piqua, Ohio.

Roughly 9 *universities* will be visited. Tentative Departure is tentatively set for May 25, 2016 with a return on July 6th.

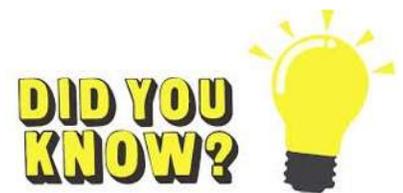
Trip is open to any current 8th grader through senior.

Anticipated cost is \$2500.00

Please see Mr. Bob for more information.

## International Day and Creative Arts Festival coming February 18th and 19th 2016

Watch for more news about this new event at NIS. Ms. Galang is the chairperson of the event.



Noblesse International School

CELEBRATES

# International Day

and

# CREATIVE Arts Festival

18 - 19 February 2016

Time : 8:00 AM

NIS Soccer Field and Gymnasium

Noblesse International School, Circumferential Road,  
Fil-Am Friendship Highway, Cutcut, Angeles City



**NOBLESSE**  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
*Your children. Our future.*



## USA & KOR COLLEGE ADMISSION SEMINAR



### Are you preparing alone for College Admission?

Our Expert Consultants will let you know all about College Admission!!

**WHO** 8th to 12th grade high school students and parents who are interested in studying abroad!

**WHERE** Noblesse International School Conference Room

**WHAT** What is the conference about?

- Prerequisites for College Admission
- Requirements for Top University in USA
- Transfer to a Top Korean University
- Difference between SAT & ACT
- Transfer to a Top University in the USA
- Conditional Admission

**WHEN** Feb 24, 2016 (Wed) 16:30 - Parents (Korean Seminar)

Feb 26, 2016 (Fri) 17:00 - Parents (English Seminar)

Feb 25, 2016 (Thu), Feb 27, 2016 (Sat) 09:00 ~ 17:00 (1:1 Consulting)

**CALL** (045) 459.9000

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